

LTC Vivian Hutson visits India



A dietitian and two surgeons from Tripler Army Medical Center traveled to the Indian Himalayans in July to make presentations at the India-US Defense Exchange on High Altitude Medicine. Meeting in the city of Leh, at an altitude of 11,500 feet, they joined Indian physicians to address medical and surgical problems at high altitude as well as techniques to facilitate acclimatization.

The team from the US Army, LTC Vivian Hutson, LTC Kevin Winkle, and MAJ Joe Snizek, made presentations on how nutrition and certain surgical procedures were affected by the conditions at high altitude. Experts from the Indian Army shared their research and experience from sustained military operations in the Himalayan Mountains. The US team also visited Indian Army medical facilities and met with high-ranking officers in Leh and New Delhi.

This year, subject matter expert exchanges between the US and Indian militaries began again after a long hiatus. This was the first military medical exchange between the countries in many years. The US team was very impressed by the professionalism and hospitality of their Indian hosts and said that they hoped and expected that there would be many more exchanges of this type in the near future.

